Dear Sister Rebecca (Mrs Preston) Clarissa W. vol 3 Dodi Rec'd Co Pp. Dec 24. 1845

Do not any more so bitterly reproach us for that of which we are not guilty. What more can we do than put our letters in the office, paper scribbled as you directed & pay the postage to Boston? This we have done. Just after the birth of our little son which was July 1st 1845 Husband wrote you a long letter, before my health was sufficiently restored to assist him; again in about one year from that time I helped him fill a large sheet for you & if you think I can the guilt rest on us we are not conscious of the crime you bring against us. Now we trust to soon forget our distant friends. After receiving the embrace & sweet kisses of our dear little blocks eyes, to think of your little ones & talk over new attributes & traits, & recall & re-live over old times; how pleasing, could it in our power would we minister our tears with yours in all your sorrows, & strengthen your hands & your hearts in the duties of love to which you are invited. We shall continue to write you & though our letters do not pass as we have the satisfaction of believing, we have done what we could.

We thank you for your letters & the book you sent us, also the newspaper not yet received & desire you mention in your next, dated June 4th which has just now had us, the map also & the boy letters accompanying it. they do us good & awaken an interest for the heathen among our dear people. If I knew you would not perceive our last letter I would mention our letters what it contained, but hoping you will not reproach them. Last July we started in our carriage with Mamma then one year old, to visit mother. Spent the 1st sabbath at York mills with Stephen Sheldon & received at Rupert Wednesday night found mother well & brother Preston an interesting youth grown taller than Bowen or Ogden & conducting the farm & taking care of his parents with the prudence & good management of a man of forty years. Had a visit with Mr Ogden. Dear little had not returned from Ohio. She called on us on her way out & spent the Sabbath. Staid with our dear mother a week a precious week. There we saw & talked of our dear sister Maria. Why it is brother & you, & you believe we did not think or speak of her? No. you know my husband does not thus forget his friends; though his pastoral duties are so numerous & so obligatory, he cannot devote so much time as he would be glad to, to letter writing yet his friends are remembered & that too with the same affection & manifested time with them. We went from Rupert to Castleton & Middlebury to visit my friends ~~from~~ there to Castleton Burlington & Cambridge, through the northern part of the State to Governeur. found sister Maria & husband & a little daughter 4 weeks old with Br Smith's family made a short visit. Little Bowen has become so much attached to his Pa & to Br Smith's family as not to be persuaded to come home with us though he loved his little brother very much. found on reaching home that we had travelled 1100 miles & that without

any accident or hindrance of any kind worth mentioning — and visited our only mother & all our brothers & sisters on both sides but sister Nancie & her dearer self — Shall we ever see you in this world? not likely —

We rejoice that you are allowed to see a little fruit of your labor & hope the Lord will spare your lives to witness a large ingathering of souls to the Redeemer's kingdom from the heathen in Siam. For the two past months we have enjoyed a season of refreshing from the Lord. the church have been deeply humbled & have cried to God in such a manner that He has answered them by sending His converting grace so we think we can only say that salvation has come out of Israel. above 20 stand ready for admission to the church & others are ~~still~~ coming forward. it has been a blessed season & we hope it will long continue —

Sabbath Christmas Eve ✓

Again I take my pen for I am impatient that you should be on the way — today has been a interesting day with us. the Spirit of the Lord was in the congregation moving upon the hearts of thinkers & sinners too we hope — it seems like a harbinger of glorious things for this people — husband has gone 3 miles in the rain to attend meeting in a neighborhood where are many impenitent sinners some of whom are inquiring the way to be saved — The Lord has enabled your dear brother to wield the sword of the Spirit (the truth) effectually to the pulling of sinners; his labors have been blessed wherever he has labored & for some time past he is so rapidly going his work that it will seem all be done — I know my dear sister we ought to hold our friends so loosely that we can let them go at any time, but my heart clings to my dear husband & I am often led to exclaim can I give him up? How much dear Maria you need the prayers of Christians! Surrounded as I am by those who profess to love the Saviour & though blessed with the means of grace, I constantly feel that I need the prayers of others to enable me to discharge the duties devolving upon me as a ministers wife & a mother — Surely then a missionary's wife needs much assistance. O that you & your dear husband may have grace & strength to follow closely the example of Christ, devote deeply of His Spirit, rely firmly upon His promises & labor together effectually for the promotion of His kingdom — You affectionate Eliza Please remember me affectly to Br & Sister Robinson & Doct. B. & wife, though personally unacquainted with them I love them as missionaries & shall endeavor to pray for you all. will you not also remember us in your prayers Don't forget to write us — yours Eliza — Jan 3 1836

Dear Sister & brother We much regret that our letters have not reached you for we spared no pains to make as correct & interesting ~~they~~ they doubtless would have been repressing your kind wishes that we were sharers in heaven that you had undertaken the

presidium that you were not even thought of or prayed for by us. We do remember you often with tears – My people love you – my Sabbath School Children love you & pray for you. Into 4 months we have been with this people as long as you have been absent from your native land – God has led us to feel that this is our field of labour – We have witnessed 2 interesting revivals. The first soon after we came & there has not been a communion season since without additions to the church of such as we hope are to be saved – Since we came there have been 125 additions to the church – We are now labouring & rejoicing in the work of the Lord – Eighteen last Saturday publickly professed their faith in Xt. Twenty stand as candidates for admission the next communion. There are frequent & rejoicing communions taking place – The old man of 80 has just begun to sing "Hail my ever blessed Jesus" He meddles aged the youth, the child of 8 years old are singing together Redeeming love. – Many are enquiring "what shall I do to be saved." Several connected with the Church are preparing for the ministry – Some of them Lords are fired with a missionary spirit. They will enter into the field & labour soon. Our Sabbath School has been blessed abundantly. Many of the dear children from 10 to 15 are rejoicing in hope. We have our Sabbath School Concerts for prayer. It would do you good to hear their tearful supplications for the poor heathen Children – They have their missionary box in which they deposit their mites – the box is opened once in six months & they decide what use shall be made of their money – Sometimes feel that the Lord is doing more for his cause with us at home than he would do abroad. But we have many serious thoughts of the millions perishing without the bread of life & wish our Selves among them. More is doing now & will be done in 1837. than was ever done in one year before for the heathen world in America. The most of the Churches in the State of N.Y. have received double this year. – Papers which you receive will give you the state of things in this country. The cause of Abolition is gaining ground rapidly the poor slaves must & will be free – Revivals are becoming more numerous than last year. Rochester is walking with Banners & is blessed indeed. The 4th – Rev R Mc Dowal the moral reformer has gone to his long home, died last month. – Dear Bro & Sister we want you to write us one more letter if you never receive this, give us particulars, about your climate, gardens, food, clothing, the manner your neighbours live their manners, &c. &c. Remember us to your

Not the things of your country then familiar to you are new to us - What should we see were we hand in hand in your door? How many buildings in sight. What made of? There what is that a little to the left of your house? Who is that going by that looks so? What is that man doing? - Where are those fellows all going? - To that a dog? - What is that, a boat's mast! We heard from a news paper this week that Mrs Robinson makes good rice bread We prefer it in puddings - What is the Process - If you never receive this letter just tell us all about these things & we will write you another letter tho you never receive that - Ah Lis you begin to dimple dear I see your six months ahead tell me if you don't tho you never receive this - Love to all the dear Missionaries -

Your affectionate Bro. & Bro.
John Bower

Rev. Stephen Phillips
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